

## Red Meat & Pork Production at Record High for August

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.24 billion pounds in August, up 4 percent from the 4.10 billion pounds produced in August 2005.

Beef production, at 2.44 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.13 million head, up 5 percent from August 2005. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,275 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.2 million pounds, 4 percent above August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 66,700 head, up 2 percent from August 2005. The average live weight was unchanged last year, at 347 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.77 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.09 million head, 1 percent above August 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 263 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from August 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 227,000 head, 1 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, down 5 pounds from August a year ago.

January to August 2006 commercial red meat production was 31.3 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

August 2005 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays. August 2006 contained 23 weekdays including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

### Commercial Red Meat Production, United States 1/

Kind	August 2005	July 2006	August 2006	Jan.-August 2/		Change from last year
				2005	2006	
	Million pounds					Percent
Beef	2,319	2,204	2,442	16,315	17,423	+7
Veal	13.7	12.0	14.2	104.1	100.7	-3
Pork	1,752	1,553	1,774	13,416	13,647	+2
Lamb & mutton	15.4	13.2	14.6	123.4	124.7	+1
Total red meat	4,100	3,782	4,245	29,959	31,296	+4

1/Based on packers dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

2/Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

### Commercial Slaughter 1/, August 2006

Species	Wisconsin	Change from last year	U.S.	Change from last year
	1,000 hd	Percent	1,000 hd	Percent
Cattle, all	141.4	+14	3,133.6	+5
Calves	11.6	+9	66.7	+2
Hogs, all	51.6	+8	9,094.2	+1
Sheep and lambs	1.6	+23	227.0	-1

1/Excludes farm slaughter. 2/Federally inspected only. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.